

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 6, 2005. Claims 1 to 4 and 6 to 14 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 7 to 12 being independent. Claims 1 and 7 to 14 have been amended herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,701,378 (Gilhuly) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,691,162 (Wick) and U.S. Patent No. 6,549,939 (Ford). Claims 2 to 4 and 6 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Gilhuly in view of Wick and Ford, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,587,831 (O'Brien). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to a feature of the invention, the status information which is updated on the basis of the generated change information (Claims 1, 8, 10, and 12) or which is changed in accordance with both the transmitted information and the schedule information managed by the server device (Claims 7, 9, and 11) represents a user's action.

None of the applied documents is seen to teach or suggest at least the foregoing feature.

With respect to Wick, this document is merely seen to disclose detecting that a previously unavailable user is available and sending an instant message to the user upon such detection. See, for example, col. 2, line 63 to col. 3, line 12 of Wick.

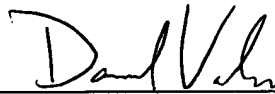
With respect to Ford, this document is merely seen to disclose providing status information regarding flights, weather, or restaurants, in response to a user's request. See, for example, col. 3, lines 15 to 36 of Ford.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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